

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-5 and 7-16 are pending. No claims have been canceled, added, or amended.

The Examiner objected to the Specification for minor informalities. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the Specification to overcome the objection. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection.

Claims 1-5 and 7-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,216,178 of Stracovsky et al. (“Stracovsky”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,128,702 of Saulsbury (“Saulsbury”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 sets forth the command sequencer and serializer unit to use a first plurality of address and command signals to generate a plurality of signals to be input to the memory module via a point-to-point interconnect between the command sequencer and serializer unit and the memory module, wherein *the plurality of signals is fewer in number than the first plurality of address and command signals*. In contrast, neither Stracovsky nor Saulsbury discloses such a limitation.

According to Stracovsky, one embodiment of a controller 104 includes a command sequencer 116 (Stracovsky, Fig. 1B). The processors 902 are connected to the controller 904 by a system bus 906 (Stracovsky, col. 11, ln. 57-59). An initialization/synchronization (I/S) bus 916 connecting the controller 904 to each of the SLDRAMs 908 and 910 provides a signal path for initialization signals as well as synchronization signals generated by the controller 904 (Stracovsky, col. 12, ln. 2-6). However, Stracovsky is silent on whether the signals generated by the command sequencer is fewer in number than the address and command signals received. Moreover, nothing in Figures 1B and 9A of Stracovsky discloses, suggests, or implies that the

command sequencer 116 uses a first plurality of address and command signals to generate a plurality of signals, wherein the plurality of signals is fewer in number than the first plurality of address and command signals.

Furthermore, Saulsbury fails to disclose a command sequencer and serializer unit to use a first plurality of address and command signals to generate a plurality of signals, wherein the plurality of signals is fewer in number than the first plurality of address and command signals. Therefore, neither Stracovsky nor Saulsbury discloses at least the above limitation set forth in claim 1. Claim 1 is patentable over Stracovsky in view of Saulsbury for at least this reason. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claims 2-5 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-5 are patentable over Stracovsky in view of Saulsbury for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claims 7, 10, and 15 are patentable over Stracovsky in view of Saulsbury for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claims 8-9, 11-14, and 16 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 7, 10, and 15, respectively. Therefore, claims 8-9, 11-14, and 16 are patentable over Stracovsky in view of Saulsbury for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

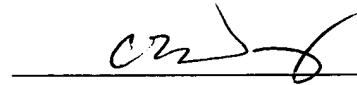
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection and rejections have been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these objection

and rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that claims 1-5 and 7-16 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
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